

HOME RULE FOR CUBA

DRAFTING REFORMS.

REPEATED ASSURANCES GIVEN TO PRESIDENT
CLEVELAND THAT THE MEASURES WILL BE
PUT INTO EFFECT WHEN FINAR DEL

FROM THE STATE
DEPARTMENT.

ernment may not accept the mediation of the United States in giving autonomy to Cuba, it has been known here for several weeks that the

measure of home rule than they have heretofore enjoyed. President Cleveland has been repeatedly assured that these reforms will be put into effect when the Province of Pinar del Rio has been pacified. Maceo and his followers have been in this province for the last year, and since Maceo's death the work of pacification has been considerably expedited. The time is now believed to be ripe for the home rule to be instituted.

It has frequently been asserted by Spain that the intended reforms would have been put in operation long ago but for the insurrection, and that some of the leaders among the insurgents started the rebellion in order to prevent the reforms. These reforms embrace the election of the entire Cuban delegation in the Cortes, instead of a delegation of fifteen elected members and fifteen appointed by the Queen Regent, and

and fifteen appointed by the Queen Regent, another also the complete control by Cuba of her tariff. The Spanish Ministry is now understood to be engaged in drafting the proposed reforms, but thus far the only evidence respecting them is of a general nature. It is believed that they will be completed within the next fortnight, and it is not unlikely that a copy will be cabled to Secre-

At the State Department it is declared that there has been no substantial alteration in the international aspect of the Cuban question since

international aspect of the Cuban question since President Cleveland wrote the following in his annual Message of December 7: "It was intimated by this Government to the Government

Spain some months ago that, if a satisfactory measure of home rule were tendered to the Cuban insurgents, and would be accepted by them upon a guarantee of its execution, the United States would endeavor to find a way not objectionable to Spain of furnishing such guar-

It is explained that, for domestic reasons, the present Spanish Cabinet could not take what would be to it a suicidal step, of putting down in black and white a complete acceptance of the suggested mediation between a Sovereign Power and her crown colony. There has been at least one communication between Secretary Olney and the Spanish Premier, as disclosed by President Cleveland's double negation, and the only

It is said that President Cleveland, in speaking of the insurgents, did not refer to them as "rebels," a name which would not be satisfied with this compromise, but to the actual combatants under Gomez and other leaders, at the same time including Maceo, who, according to the information of the State Department, were at that time not averse to putting an end to the hostilities, if the reforms promised by Spain were put into operation with the tacit guarantee of the United States, and amnesty were

granted to them and their followers. The great difficulty has been and still is in the power of the United States "to find a way not objectionable to Spain" in accomplishing the purpose of the armistice. It is believed that the Government of Maceo may have simplified the problem.

It has been found an exceedingly delicate undertaking to make any progress in the matter without that publicity which would offend the Spanish people and cause an uprising. It is for this reason that the Government has been obliged to exercise the greatest discretion and to keep the public out of the affair. It has been pointed out that the matter rests exclusively with the President, and, under no circumstances pending its conclusion, could Congress

ANOTHER SPANISH MASSACRE.
"A BATTLE" TURNS OUT TO BE THE MURDER OF
PACIFICOS ON THE SOTOLONGO RANCH.

Havana, Dec. 28.—It is officially stated to-day that a Spanish column has had an engagement with rebel parties under Sotolongo on the Sotolongo ranch, near Jacagu Grande, Province of Matanzas.

The arguments are alleged to have been completely dispersed, with the loss of fifteen killed and one wounded. The Spaniards had a corporal wounded.

It is known that this "engagement" was simply an attack made by the troops upon the defenceless pacificos on the ranch, and that the fifteen persons reported to have been killed in battle were brutally massacred.

Claudio Perez Medell and José Perez Garcia have

... was tried in a court-martial sitting in Morro Castle. They were charged with the crime of rebellion. Their sentence has not been announced, but they will undoubtedly suffer a cruel death. The French citizens, named René and Louis Joseph Renaudou, have been tried for the same crime by an ordinary court-martial at the same place.

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DR. RIZAL TO BE EXECUTED.
HE ADMITS THAT HE IS THE AUTHOR OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PHILIPPINE LEAGUE.

Madrid, Dec. 23.—Advices from Manila show that Dr. Rizal, a prominent resident, has been sentenced to death for fomenting rebellion. He will probably be shot. On his trial, which was before a court-martial, Dr. Rizal admitted that he was the author of the constitution of the Philippine League, the body of which was revolutionary, but denied that he had taken any active part in the rebellion.

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IN AN UNDERHAND MANNER.
IT IS THIS THAT SPAIN IS SAID TO BE
NEGOTIATING WITH THE UNITED STATES.

London, Dec. 23.—"The Daily News" will to-mor-

The dispatch published from Paris saying it is quite clear that Spain is carrying on negotiations with the United States, although her pride compels her to do so in an underhand manner.

The dispatch adds that the proceeds of the popular loan recently issued by the Spanish Government are virtually all being expended in the purchase of arms, and that the death of Maceo is evaporating the hope that the Government is unable to avoid seeking an agreement with the United States.

MR. OLNEY ON THE DELGADO CASE.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Secretary Olney to-day made the following statement in regard to the case of Henry Delgado, the representative of the New-York newspaper, who was captured by the Spaniards in the Province of Pinar del Rio on Dec.

It appears from a report of the Havana Consulate that Mr. Delgado was made a prisoner by the Spanish troops in course of recent military operations in the Province of Pinar del Rio; that he is reported to have belonged to the staff of the insurgent Major General Maceo, and to have been in command of the artillery; and that a letter to Maceo and one from Maceo to the prefect of Las Tunas were found on his person. It being represented to the Consulate that Delgado is a native-born American citizen, all the rights to which he is entitled under

Mr. Delgado is confined in the military hospital of San Ambrosio, outside of Havana. The rights spoken of in the statement consist of a trial by the ordinary judicial authorities, unless the prisoner is taken with arms." Then he must be tried by a council of war or court-martial.

SPAIN HAS NOT SOUNDED FRANCE.

London, Dec. 29.—A dispatch from Madrid says: "The London Chronicle's" statement that there is reason for belief that Spain has sounded the French Foreign Office in regard to Cuba in an anti-American sense is officially denied, there being absolutely no foundation for the statement.

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